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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 04159.0001U2

APPLICATION NO. 09/632,959

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A method for obtaining a geographic location of an Internet user that accesses an external network from a private network through a proxy server, comprising:

receiving by an external server on the external network a request for information from an Internet user through the proxy server;

determining by the external server that the request for information is through the proxy server;

redirecting by the external server the request for information to an internal server of the private network, the internal server determining the geographic location of the Internet user;

receiving by the external server the geographic location from the internal server within the private network; and

using the geographic location of the Internet user in handling the request for information from the Internet user.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the external network is Internet.

3. (Amended) A method for determining a geographic location of an Internet user that accesses an external network from a private network through a proxy server, comprising:

receiving a request for the geographic location of the Internet user within the private network, the request originating from the external network outside of the private network;

detecting that the request for the geographic location of the Internet user was redirected from the external network;

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determining the geographic location of the Internet user based on an internal address associated with the Internet user and a geographic location/internal IP address mapping table contained within the private network; and

sending the geographic location to the external network.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 3, wherein receiving the request for the geographic location originating from the external network comprises receiving the request from a machine associated with the Internet user.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Amended) The method as set forth in claim 3, wherein determining the geographic location comprises:

determining an internal address of the Internet user; and
accessing a geographic location/internal IP address mapping table contained within the private network.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 3, wherein sending the geographic location to the external network comprises:

sending the geographic location to an external server on the external network; and
redirecting a machine associated with the Internet user to the external server.

Claims 8-12 (Canceled)

13. (New) A method for an external server to obtaining a geographic location of a user that accesses an external network from an internal network through a proxy server, comprising:

receiving by an external server on the external network a request for information from a user through the proxy server;

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determining by the external server that the request for information is through the proxy server;

redirecting by the external server the request for information to an internal server of the internal network;

determining by the internal server an internal network address of the user;

using a geographic location/internal network address mapping table to determine the geographic location of the user; and

sending the geographic location to the external server on the external network.

14. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the internal network and the external network are both IP networks.

15. (New) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of using by a computer on the external network the geographic location of the user in processing the request for information.

16. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the user is one of a plurality of users on the internal network that accesses the external network using a first external network address of the proxy server.

17. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the user is one of a plurality of users on the private network that accesses the external network using a first external network address of the proxy server.

18. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein the user is one of a plurality of users on the private network that accesses the external network using a first external network address of the proxy server.